infrastructure facilities at the airports is continuing process and is taken up in a phased manner depending upon the requirement projected by the operators (airlines) as well as availability of resources.

Aircraft Flown without obtaining Clearance at I.G.I.A.

1808. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that in the recent past a Singapore Airlines aircraft full of passengers had flown off from the Indira Gandhi International Airport wihtout obtaining clearance from the immigration;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a case registered against the said airlines, initially, is now proposed to be withdrawn; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and reasons for withdrawing the case from the court?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the night of 17/18 October, 1991, a Singapore Airlines Aircraft operating flight No. SQ-407 took off from Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi without obtaining immigration clearance.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It was decided to withdraw the case because the violation on the part of the Singapore Airlines was a technical lapse without any ulterior or ill motive.

Kumbha Mela as a National Fair

1809. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to declare 'Kumbha Mela' as a National Fair and give wide publicity to it in the national and international media to attract tourists;

(b) if so, whether Government indents to do it from the forthcoming Kumbha Mela of Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Indentification and celebration of fairs and festivals is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Department of Tourism extends financial assistance on specific proposals received from the State Governments based on their merit availability of funds and inter-se priority.

Public Grievances Committee for Air Services in the country

1810. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had constituted a Public Grievances Committee to discuss public grievances relating to air services within the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the number of meetings of this Committee that have been held so far and the number of public grievances that were redressed therein with details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Committee under the Chairmanship of Minister of Civil Aviation & Tourism was constituted in September, 1989 with a view to providing a forum for interaction between Government and voluntary agencies. No meeting of the Committee could be held until it was decided in March, 1991 to wind it up.